

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application. Applicants submit here-below a new complete claim set showing marked up claims with insertions indicated by underlining and deletions indicated by strikeouts and/or double bracketing.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:
generating derivatives of a nonlinear invariance transformation at a training data point with respect to a transformation parameter, the training data point representing one of a plurality of training patterns; and
generating a classifier representation based on the derivatives for classifying a test pattern in the presence of the nonlinear invariance transformation;
wherein the nonlinear invariance transformation models a change in lighting angle in an individual training pattern.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
classifying the test pattern based on the classifier representation.
3. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
receiving the plurality of training patterns; and
characterizing one of the training patterns to provide the training data point.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
classifying the test pattern based on the classifier representation to provide a classification signal; and
inputting the test pattern to the operation of generating derivatives as a training pattern, responsive to the classifying operation.
5. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
classifying the test pattern based on the classifier representation to provide a classification signal;
inputting the test pattern to the operation of generating derivatives as a training pattern; and
inputting the classification signal to the operation of generating derivatives in association with the test pattern.
6. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the non-linear invariant transformation is represented by a Taylor expansion polynomial.
7. (Canceled)
8. (Canceled)
9. (Canceled)
10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 embodied as computer-readable instruction on computer-readable media, ~~wherein the nonlinear invariance transformation models a change in lighting angle in an individual training pattern.~~

Microsoft Corporation
Type of Response: Amendment
Application Number: 10/697,727
Attorney Docket Number: 306017.01

11. (Canceled)
12. (Canceled)
13. (Canceled)
14. (Canceled)
15. (Canceled)
16. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the test pattern includes an image.
17. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the test pattern includes an audio input.
18. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the test pattern includes a handwriting pattern.
19. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the test pattern includes a time series.
20. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
restricting a range of the transformation parameter to a closed interval on a line
of real numbers.

21. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

representing a scalar product of the classifier representation with the derivatives of the nonlinear invariance transformation at the training data point with respect to the transformation parameter by a nonlinear positive definite real-valued kernel function.

22. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the operation of generating derivatives comprises:

generating derivatives of the nonlinear invariance transformation at the training data point with respect to a plurality of transformation parameters.

23. (Currently Amended) A ~~method computer program product encoding a computer program for executing on a computer system a computer process, the computer process comprising:~~

generating derivatives of a nonlinear invariance transformation at a training data point with respect to a transformation parameter, the training data point representing one of a plurality of training patterns; and

generating a classifier representation based on the derivatives for classifying a test pattern in the presence of the nonlinear invariance transformation;

wherein the nonlinear invariance transformation models a change in brightness in an individual training pattern.

24. (Currently Amended) The ~~method computer program product~~ of claim 23 wherein the computer process further comprises:

classifying the test pattern based on the classifier representation.

25. (Currently Amended) The method ~~computer program product~~ of claim 23 wherein the computer process further comprises:

receiving the plurality of training patterns; and
characterizing one of the training patterns to provide the training data point.

26. (Currently Amended) The method ~~computer program product~~ of claim 23 wherein the computer process further comprises:

classifying the test pattern based on the classifier representation; and
inputting the test pattern to the operation of generating derivatives as a training pattern, responsive to the classifying operation.

27. (Currently Amended) The method ~~computer program product~~ of claim 23 wherein the computer process further comprises:

classifying the test pattern based on the classifier representation to provide a classification signal;
inputting the test pattern to the operation of generating derivatives as a training pattern; and
inputting the classification signal to the operation of generating derivatives in association with the test pattern.

28. (Currently Amended) The method ~~computer program product~~ of claim 23 wherein the non-linear invariant transformation is represented by a Taylor expansion polynomial.

29. (Canceled)

30. (Canceled)

31. (Canceled)

32. (Canceled)

33. (Currently Amended) The method ~~computer program product~~ of claim 23 embodied as ~~computer-executable instructions on computer-readable media, wherein the nonlinear invariance transformation models a change in brightness in an individual training pattern.~~

34. (Canceled)

35. (Canceled)

36. (Canceled)

37. (Canceled)

38. (Currently Amended) The method ~~computer program product~~ of claim 23 wherein the test pattern includes an image.

39. (Currently Amended) The method ~~computer program product~~ of claim 23 wherein the test pattern includes an audio input.

40. (Currently Amended) The method ~~computer program product~~ of claim 23 wherein the test pattern includes a handwriting pattern.

41. (Currently Amended) The method ~~computer program product~~ of claim 23 wherein the test pattern includes a time series.

42. (Currently Amended) The method ~~computer program product~~ of claim 23 wherein the computer process further comprises:

restricting a range of the transformation parameter to a closed interval on a line of real numbers.

43. (Currently Amended) The method ~~computer program product~~ of claim 23 wherein the computer process further comprises:

representing a scalar product of the classifier representation with the derivatives of the nonlinear invariance transformation at the training data point with respect to the transformation parameter by a nonlinear positive definite real-valued kernel function.

44. (Currently Amended) The method ~~computer program product~~ of claim 23 wherein the operation of generating derivatives comprises:

generating derivatives of the nonlinear invariance transformation at the training data point with respect to a plurality of transformation parameters.

45. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:

a derivative generator generating derivatives of a nonlinear invariance transformation at a training data point with respect to a transformation parameter, the training data point representing one of a plurality of training patterns; and

a classifier representation generator generating a classifier representation based on the derivatives for classifying a test pattern in the presence of the nonlinear invariance transformation;

wherein the nonlinear invariance transformation models a change in lighting angle in an individual training pattern.

46. (Original) The system of claim 45 further comprising:

a classifier classifying the test pattern based on the classifier representation.

a training data characterizer receiving the plurality of training patterns and characterizing one of the training patterns to provide the training data point.

47. (Original) The system of claim 45 wherein the derivative generator inputs the test pattern as a training pattern.

48. (Original) The system of claim 45 further comprising:

a classifier classifying the test pattern based on the classifier representation to provide a classification signal, wherein the derivative generator inputs the test pattern as a training pattern and inputs the classification signal in association with the test pattern.

49. (Original) The system of claim 45 wherein the non-linear invariant transformation is represented by a Taylor expansion polynomial.

50. (Original) The system of claim 45 wherein the test pattern includes an image.
51. (Original) The system of claim 45 wherein the test pattern includes an audio input.
52. (Original) The system of claim 45 wherein the test pattern includes a handwriting pattern.
53. (Original) The system of claim 45 wherein the test pattern includes a time series.
54. (Original) The system of claim 45 wherein a range of the transformation parameter is restricted to a closed interval on a line of real numbers.
55. (Original) The system of claim 45 wherein a nonlinear positive definite real-valued kernel function represents a scalar product of the classifier representation with the derivatives of the nonlinear invariance transformation at the training data point with respect to the transformation parameter.
56. (Original) The system of claim 45 wherein the classifier representation generator generates derivatives of the nonlinear invariance transformation at the training data point with respect to a plurality of transformation parameters.

57. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:
characterizing a plurality of training patterns, each training pattern
corresponding to a training data point in a feature space;
determining a classification for each training pattern;
generating derivatives of a nonlinear invariance transformation at individual
training data points with respect to a transformation parameter; and
generating an optimized weight vector, based on the derivatives and the
classification of each training pattern, for classifying a test pattern in the presence of
the nonlinear invariance transformation;

wherein the nonlinear invariance transformation models a change in lighting
angle in an individual training pattern.

58. (Original) The method of claim 57 further comprising:
classifying the test pattern based on the optimized weight vector.

59. (Original) The method of claim 57 further comprising:
classifying the test pattern based on the optimized weight vector to provide a
classification signal; and
inputting the test pattern to the operation of generating derivatives as a training
pattern, responsive to the classifying operation.

60. (Original) The method of claim 57 further comprising:
- classifying the test pattern based on the optimized weight vector to provide a classification signal;
 - inputting the test pattern to the operation of generating derivatives as a training pattern; and
 - inputting the classification signal to the operation of generating derivatives in association with the test pattern.
61. (Original) The method of claim 57 wherein the non-linear invariant transformation is represented by a Taylor expansion polynomial.
62. (Currently Amended) A ~~method computer program product encoding a computer program for executing on a computer system a computer process, the computer process~~ comprising:
- characterizing a plurality of training patterns, each training pattern corresponding to a training data point in a feature space;
 - determining a classification for each training pattern;
 - generating derivatives of a nonlinear invariance transformation at individual training data points with respect to a transformation parameter; and
 - generating an optimized weight vector, based on the derivatives and the classification of each training pattern, for classifying a test pattern in the presence of the nonlinear invariance transformation;
- wherein the nonlinear invariance transformation models a change in brightness in an individual training pattern.

63. (Currently Amended) The method ~~computer program product~~ of claim 62 wherein the computer process further comprises:

classifying the test pattern based on the optimized weight vector.

64. (Currently Amended) The method ~~computer program product~~ of claim 62 wherein the computer process further comprises:

characterizing one of the training patterns to provide the training data point.

65. (Currently Amended) The method ~~computer program product~~ of claim 62 wherein the computer process further comprises:

classifying the test pattern based on the optimized weight vector; and

inputting the test pattern to the operation of generating derivatives as a training pattern, responsive to the classifying operation.

66. (Currently Amended) The method ~~computer program product~~ of claim 62 wherein the computer process further comprises:

classifying the test pattern based on the optimized weight vector to provide a classification signal;

inputting the test pattern to the operation of generating derivatives as a training pattern; and

inputting the classification signal to the operation of generating derivatives in association with the test pattern.

67. (Currently Amended) The method ~~computer program product~~ of claim 62 wherein the non-linear invariant transformation is represented by a Taylor expansion polynomial.

Microsoft Corporation
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68. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:

a training data characterizer characterizing a plurality of training patterns, each training pattern corresponding to a training data point in a feature space and determining a classification for each training pattern;

a derivative generator generating derivatives of a nonlinear invariance transformation at individual training data points with respect to a transformation parameter; and

a classifier representation generator generating an optimized weight vector, based on the derivatives and the classification of each training pattern, for classifying a test pattern in the presence of the nonlinear invariance transformation;

wherein the nonlinear invariance transformation models a change in lighting angle in an individual training pattern.

69. (Original) The system of claim 68 further comprising:

a classifier classifying the test pattern based on the classifier representation.

70. (Original) The system of claim 68 further comprising:

a training data characterizer receiving the plurality of training patterns and characterizing one of the training patterns to provide the training data point.

71. (Original) The system of claim 68 wherein the derivative generator inputs the test pattern as a training pattern.

72. (Original) The system of claim 68 further comprising:

a classifier classifying the test pattern based on the classifier representation to provide a classification signal, wherein the derivative generator inputs the test pattern as a training pattern and inputs the classification signal in association with the test pattern.

73. (Original) The system of claim 68 wherein the non-linear invariant transformation is represented by a Taylor expansion polynomial.

74. (New) A system comprising:

a derivative generator generating derivatives of a nonlinear invariance transformation at a training data point with respect to a transformation parameter, the training data point representing one of a plurality of training patterns; and

a classifier representation generator generating a classifier representation based on the derivatives for classifying a test pattern in the presence of the nonlinear invariance transformation;

wherein the nonlinear invariance transformation models a change in brightness in an individual training pattern.

75. (New) The system of claim 74 further comprising:

a classifier classifying the test pattern based on the classifier representation.
a training data characterizer receiving the plurality of training patterns and characterizing one of the training patterns to provide the training data point.

76. (New) The system of claim 74 wherein the derivative generator inputs the test pattern as a training pattern.

77. (New) The system of claim 74 further comprising:
a classifier classifying the test pattern based on the classifier representation to provide a classification signal, wherein the derivative generator inputs the test pattern as a training pattern and inputs the classification signal in association with the test pattern.
78. (New) The system of claim 74 wherein the non-linear invariant transformation is represented by a Taylor expansion polynomial.
79. (New) The system of claim 74 wherein the test pattern includes an image.
80. (New) The system of claim 74 wherein the test pattern includes an audio input.
81. (New) The system of claim 74 wherein the test pattern includes a handwriting pattern.
82. (New) The system of claim 74 wherein the test pattern includes a time series.
83. (New) The system of claim 74 wherein a range of the transformation parameter is restricted to a closed interval on a line of real numbers.
84. (New) The system of claim 74 wherein a nonlinear positive definite real-valued kernel function represents a scalar product of the classifier representation with the derivatives of the nonlinear invariance transformation at the training data point with respect to the transformation parameter.

85. (New) The system of claim 74 wherein the classifier representation generator generates derivatives of the nonlinear invariance transformation at the training data point with respect to a plurality of transformation parameters.
86. (New) The method of claim 57 embodied as computer-executable instructions on computer-readable media.
87. (New) The method of claim 62 embodied as computer-executable instructions on computer-readable media.
88. (New) A system comprising:
- a training data characterizer characterizing a plurality of training patterns, each training pattern corresponding to a training data point in a feature space and determining a classification for each training pattern;
 - a derivative generator generating derivatives of a nonlinear invariance transformation at individual training data points with respect to a transformation parameter; and
 - a classifier representation generator generating an optimized weight vector, based on the derivatives and the classification of each training pattern, for classifying a test pattern in the presence of the nonlinear invariance transformation;
- wherein the nonlinear invariance transformation models a change in brightness in an individual training pattern.
89. (New) The system of claim 88 further comprising:
- a classifier classifying the test pattern based on the classifier representation.

90. (New) The system of claim 88 further comprising:
a training data characterizer receiving the plurality of training patterns and characterizing one of the training patterns to provide the training data point.
91. (New) The system of claim 88 wherein the derivative generator inputs the test pattern as a training pattern.
92. (New) The system of claim 88 further comprising:
a classifier classifying the test pattern based on the classifier representation to provide a classification signal, wherein the derivative generator inputs the test pattern as a training pattern and inputs the classification signal in association with the test pattern.
93. (New) The system of claim 88 wherein the non-linear invariant transformation is represented by a Taylor expansion polynomial.